

Puppet Script # 1 - Sean Kelly

0:40
min.

read 9/5/92
2nd draft
discussed 9/16/92

Seems like a device to show music videos.

Perhaps Tekky could be like Amelia Bedelia

JS seems like Schaner

Results of Tekky are not needed
Frustration is better

Elim. names of real stars

- Simon & Garfunkle

- Seamy & Cher

- Madonna

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Have story lead to ?

why they are a jukebox band in ST Station
particularly after the train travel sequence
and the STS

SHINING TIME STATION

"PUPPET SCRIPT #1"

BY

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From characters and storylines created by
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SECOND DRAFT
AUGUST 31, 1992

SCENE 1

(SONG: "MOMMA DON'T ALLOW")

SCENE 2
(AUDITORIUM)

(FREEZE LAST FRAME OF SONG VIDEO)

(OS SOUND OF A SMALL CROWD
CHEERING, APPLAUDING)

(PULL BACK TO REVEAL SCREEN IS IN
AN AUDITORIUM -- ON A RAISED STAGE
IS A SPEAKER'S PODIUM WITH
MICROPHONE. BEHIND IT, A GLITTERY
SORT OF CURTAIN CLOSES (OR DROPS)
TO HIDE THE SCREEN. ON THE
CURTAIN, AND REPEATED ON THE FRONT
OF THE PODIUM, A SHOW-BIZ "LOGO" --
MAYBE THE CLICHE MASKS OF COMEDY
AND TRAGEDY. TO THE PODIUM AND MIKE
ENTERS A FLEXITON PUPPET -- A
POMPOUS "EMCEE" TYPE, TUXEDO CLAD
-- WHO BEARS AN UNCANNY RESEMBLANCE
TO THE LATE GREAT SAMMY DAVIS JR.)

(now its a cliché ho ho)

(SOUND -- MORE CHEERS FROM THE
[STILL UNSEEN] AUDIENCE)

(INTERCUT -- A PEANUT GALLERY OF
MISCELLANEOUS GOOFY BUT
ENTHUSIASTIC PUPPETS)

black, small, hair slicked back?

EMCEE:

Give it up for the Very
Fabulous Shining Time
Station Juke Box Band!
But seriously, folks, we
all know that behind
every great band, there's
a truly great manager.
Lie the genius we are
honored to honor today
-- a cat who needs no
introduction -- I mean,
he's a Legendary Monster
of the Music
Industry ... the manager
and discoverer of the
Very Fabulous Shining
Time Station Juke Box
Band ... The Sultan of
Small Change, the Nabob
of Nickels ... the
Cheapest Man in Show
Business ... the one and
only ... My Main Man ...
Jay-Jay Silver!

✓ ?

SCENE 1 (CONT'D)

(CUT TO: PEANUT GALLERY GOING NUTS
CHEERING WILDLY, APPLAUDING.)

(CUT TO: EMCEE BOWING, WAVING,
GESTURING AS J.J. SAUNTERS TO THE
PODIUM. THEY EMBRACE, REACT TO THE
APPLAUSE AS IF SURPRISED, EMBRACE
AGAIN. EMCEE EXITS.)

J.J.

Thank you, Mister
Wonderful. And thank
you, my friends. No, No.
You're too kind.
Gracias, amigos! Merci,
mes amis. Please!
Enough!

(HE GESTURES FOR THEM TO CONTINUE
WHILE ALLEGEDLY TRYING TO QUIET
THEM. NONE THE LESS, THEY SETTLE
DOWN.)

J.J. (CONT'D):

You know, rather than
give a formal speech to
you all today, I thought
-- "J.J., why don't you
just get up there and
speak off the top of your
heart?"

(MORE O.S. APPLAUSE, CHEERING.)

J.J. (CONT'D):

I feel humble and yet in
a way ^{2m}prude (PAUSE)
Pound? Prune? TECKY!
Next card, you
incompetent corn flake!

not needed

SCENE 1 (CONT'D)

(CUT TO: TECKY, A NERDY LOOKING PUPPET IN COVERALLS, WHO STANDS NEAR A HEAP OF AUDIO-VISUAL-ISH EQUIPMENT. HE IS LOCATED BETWEEN J.J. AND THE GALLERY, FUMBLING WITH A SET OF HAND-LETTERED CUE CARDS ON WHICH WE CAN SEE EVERYTHING J.J. HAS SAID UNTIL NOW. THE WORD "PROUD" IS PRINTED SMALL (TO FIT) ON A CARD -- AND BIG ON THE NEXT ONE TECKY HOLDS UP.)

use this ~~same~~ problem
later
for kids who can't
read it diff to
understand
what is Tecky's error

(CUT TO: J.J. AT PODIUM -- HE DOESN'T MISS A BEAT GOING FROM ANGRY AND FRUSTRATED BACK TO SINCERE)

J.J. (CONT'D):

proud to be honored by
you all, my close
personal friends, members
of my favorite
organization, the very
famous ...

(CUT TO: TECKY FUMBLING WITH CARDS.)

(CUT TO: PODIUM. J.J. CARRIES ON.)

J.J. (CONT'D):

... well, you know who
you are as well as I do!
Even better, maybe ...

id like to thank
a lot of friends
audience snore

(AS SOON AS J.J. LAUNCHES INTO THIS NEXT PARAGRAPH, A LOUD SNORE IS HEARD O.S. THEN ANOTHER. WITHIN SECONDS, A CHORUS OF SNORES.)

(INTERCUT: AUDIENCE PUPPETS KEELED OR KEELING OVER.)

SCENE 1 (CONT'D)

J.J. (CONT'D):

And, you know, I can't help being reminded of a cute story. One time I was in Vegas playing golf with Madonna, Frank Sinatra and the Beatles. And I remembered something Albert Einstein once told me. He said, "J.J. my friend ..."

*don't
real names? Wayne Newton*

(J.J. IS DROWNED OUT BY THE SNORING. HE LOOKS AROUND.)

J.J. (CONT'D):

And so, without further ado -- roll tape! I said, ROLL TAPE!

(CUT TO: TECKY, NODDING, SNAPS AWAKE. SEIZES A LARGE ROLL OF GAFFERS TAPE, ROLLS IT.)

this is like Amelia Bedelia

(CUT TO: ROLL OF TAPE ROLLING PAST PODIUM IN FRONT OF J.J.)

J.J.:

No, you ridiculous ruttabagga! The video tape!

(CURTAIN PARTS [OR RISES] AND ON SCREEN APPEARS. ON IT:)

SCENE TWO

SONG: "DESPERADO"

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 3
(AUDITORIUM)

(AUDIENCE GALLERY CHEERING AND
APPLAUDING -- TECKY LIKEWISE.)

(CUT TO: PODIUM. J.J. BEHAVES AS
IF THE APPLAUSE IS FOR HIM.
CURTAIN CLOSES BEHIND HIM)

J.J.:

The Band. The Juke Box
Band. My band. They love
me. It's a shame they
couldn't be here in
person today -- little
contract dispute
heh-heh-heh nothing
serious ...

why? eh...
why not say they're
been scheduled them
to play elsewhere

(INTERCUT: DISAPPOINTED AUDIENCE SIGHING
AWWWW!)

J.J. (CONT'D):

But permit me to
introduce them to you.
First, on piano, Tito.
(PAUSE) That's a cue,
you fumble-fingered
fudge-sickle! Drop the
screen! Drop the screen!

(CUT TO: TECKY, FRANTIC. HITS A
BUTTON ON HIS EQUIPMENT.)

(CUT TO: PODIUM. A SCREEN UNFOLDS
VERY QUICKLY BEHIND J.J. WITH A
CRASH. IT MISSES HIM. JUST. A
BEAT. ON THE SCREEN APPEARS A
STILL "PUBLICITY" PHOTO OF TITO.
AUTOGRAPHED. J.J. STANDS IN FRONT
OF IT, POINTING PROUDLY.)

J.J.:

Yes, Tito. The Maestro
with the Mostest, as I
have dubbed him, and
keyboard artiste
extrordinaire. I'll
never forget my first
unforgettable encounter
with Tito ... It was, in
a word, unforgettable.

SCENE 4

("LITTLE TITO" SET)

(LITTLE TITO IS PRACTICING PIANO
-- BADLY)

J.J. VO)

I was walking down a
street in a small town
when I heard something
that was music to my
ears. It was, in fact,
music.

(LITTLE TITO GIVES UP)

LITTLE TITO:

I'll never learn to play
this thing. Piano, why
are you so hard?

PIANO:

Aw, c'mon, kid. I'm not
so hard.

LITTLE TITO:

You can talk?

PIANO:

Well, I can talk better
than you can play...

LITTLE TITO:

That's not hard.

PIANO:

I'll say... but listen,
kid. Here's how it goes.

(PIANO PLAYS ITSELF -- VERY WELL)

You getting this, kid?

LITTLE TITO:

Not really...

(J.J.'S HEAD APPEARS IN THE WINDOW)

SCENE 4 (CONT'D)

J.J.:

Hey, fella -- you're
pretty good! You can
sure tickle those
eighty-eights.

LITTLE TITO:

Excuse me?

J.J.:

My name's Silver. J.J.
Silver. And I know a
genius when I hear it. *hmm*

you have

*genius is 99%
preparation*

LITTLE TITO:

But I...

You need to practice

J.J.:

If you ever decide to
turn pro, let me know.
My office is a table
in the Carnegie
Delicatessen. Ciao!

*if you ever decide to
start your talent
& work at it for several
years - call me*

(J.J. POPS OUT OF THE WINDOW)

LITTLE TITO:

Wow. But how do I get to
the Carnegie
Delicatessen?

PIANO:

Practice.

LITTLE TITO:

Okay...

(HE RESUMES BANGING AWAY AT THE
KEYS)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 5
(AUDITORIUM)

(J.J. IS ON PODIUM IN FRONT OF
SCREEN WITH TITO PIC.)

J.J.:

And, next but not least,
there's Grace. Grace the
Bass. Amazing Grace, as
I cleverly call her ...
Slide! Slide, you
dimwitted dumpling!

} *oh! see the slide*
no

(CUT TO: TECKY, FRANTIC. GETS IT.
RUNS AND "SLIDES" BASERUNNER STYLE
INTO HIS EQUIPMENT.)

} *weak pun*

AUDIENCE (O.S.):

Safe! Out! He was safe!
Out by a mile!

(CUT TO: PODIUM. THE SLIDE SEEMS
TO HAVE JOLTED THE PROJECTOR. AT
ANY RATE, A STILL OF GRACE IS NOW
SEEN ON SCREEN. J.J., IN FRONT OF
IT, POINTS.)

*Tecky could be
like Amelia Bedelia
taking things literally*

J.J.:

When I first heard Grace,
I was on the road. And
there she was. On the
car radio. Well, not so
much on the car radio as
in the radio ... And you
might say I turned her
on ...

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 6

(CAR RADIO INTERIOR)

(GRACE AND THE TUBES DO "NEW SONG"
-- "NEW RIVER TRAIN?")

(AT END OF SONG [PAUSE] GRACE TURNS
TO THE BAND OF TUBES AND COILS, AND
EXTENDS HER HAND)

GRACE:

Nice work, guys.

(SHE GETS A SHOCK OF SPARKS FROM
THE FIRST, A REAL JOLT FROM
ANOTHER, WHILE ALL THE REST REACH
OUT AND ZAP HER)

Ow. Ouch! Hey, cool it!
Boy, what I wouldn't do
to play in a real band
instead of this glorified
fuse box...

(J.J. ENTERS RIGHT ON CUE)

J.J.:

Your wish is my command,
my sultry songbird. Your
talents are wasted here
in the boondocks of tubes
and circuits. Permit me
to take you away from
all this... just sign
here, m'dear...

(DISSOLVE TO:)

*why zap her
why not just tubes with face
than light up + spark*

SCENE 7
(AUDITORIUM)

(AT THE PODIUM. J.J. AND SCREEN
ON WHICH WE SEE A NEW PUBLICITY
STILL -- GRACE & TITO.)

J.J.:

So now I'd signed up
Grace and Tito. I tried
to promote them as a
singing team. Like Sonny
and Cher, Simon and
Garfunkle, Abbot and
Costello. But I knew the
act needed something
more. Something new and
different. Then I heard
about a dancer. her name
was Waltzing Matilda ...

real name?

(ON SCREEN BEHIND J.J. FLASHES
PICTURE OF BALLERINA DOLL. IT
BEGINS TO TWIRL. WE HEAR "WALTZING
MATILDA" PLAYED. PULL BACK TO
REVEAL DOLL IS ON TOP OF A MUSIC
BOX.)

J.J. (V.O.):

I saw right away that
Matilda wasn't right for
me. There was
something ... mechanical
about her. But I like
what I heard, so I took a
look backstage.

what happens to Matilda?

SCENE 8
(MUSIC BOX INTERIOR)

(THE BOYS DO "NEW SONG" -- "WALTZING MATILDA")

(AT SONG'S END, J.J. ENTERS.)

J.J.:

Hi, boys. Silver's the
name, exploiting talent's
the game. You boys are
good.

(writing)

*Have our
will to work*

TEX:

Thank you, sir.

REX:

We think so too.

J.J.:

Too good to be playin' in
a dump like this.

REX:

We kinda like it. The
hours are bad ...

TEX:

And so is the pay ...

J.J.:

Boys, boys, boys. I'm
gonna make stars outa you
two boys. Everybody's
gonna know you boys'
names. By the way, boys,
what is your name?

TEX & REX:

Boys.

J.J.:

Huh?

SCENE 8 (CONT'D)

TEX:

We're the Boy Brothers,
Tex and Rex.

J.J.:

Well, Rex...

REX:

I'm Rex. He's Tex.

J.J.:

Got it. Tex, Rex.

TEX:

Nope. He's Rex. I'm
Tex.

(AS ALL THREE DO "Rex? Tex. Tex,
Rex. Tex? Rex..."

SCENE 9
(AUDITORIUM)

(J.J. IN ON PODIUM FRONT OF SCREEN
WHICH NOW HAS PICS OF TITO, GRACE
AND THE BOY BROTHERS ON IT.)

J.J.:

And that's how I signed
up the Boy Brothers, Rex
and Tex! Now my band
needed just one thing. A
beat. (Not a turnip. Not
a potato. A beat. Get
it? Drums? Boom-boom?

doesn't really work
we need a beat
instead [Tecky gets a beat]

(INTERCUT: TECKY AND THE AUDIENCE
LOOKING AROUND, PUZZLED.)

VOICES:

Vegetables? Groceries?
Roots? What? Huh?

(CUT TO: J.J. AT THE PODIUM
SOLDIERS ON.)

J.J. (CONT'D):

A little squaresville out
there, huh? Not the
hip-arooney, huh, Mister
Wonderful?

(INTERCUT: AT SIDE OF PLATFORM,
EMCEE PUPPET POINTING, LAUGHING
HYSTERICALLY.)

EMCEE:

Beat! Potato! Turnip!
You're too much, Man!

J.J.:

But humorously enough, it
was my love of comedy
that led to my discovery
of our drummer, the
lovely and talented Didi.
(PAUSE) Didi! Tecky --
you blockheaded bonbon --
hit the projector!

eliminate

SCENE 9 (CONT'D)

(CUT TO: TECKY WINDING UP AND
SLUGGING HIS EQUIPMENT.)

(CUT TO: PIC OF DIDI APPEARS ON
SCREEN)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 10

(CITY STREET B.G.)

J.J. (V.O.):

I had heard there was a
terrific comedian playing
at my favorite gourmet
restaurant...

(POPCORN CART WHEELS IN -- DIDI IS
INSIDE, AS IS MAISIE CORN. DIDI
INTROS MAISIE, THEN SITS AT HER
DRUMS AND PROVIDES A RIM SHOT FOR
EVERY GAG)

DIDI:

An now, Miss Maisie
Corn...

MAISIE:

Lend me your ears. Get
it? Corn? Ears? I know
you think that's a corny
joke. But remember, my
father was in the army.
He was a Kernel. He was
pretty salty, but I knew
how to butter him up. He
was in stocks. Corn?
Stalks? I grew up in the
suburbs. Cos Cob. In a
row house. Get it? Cob?
Corn? Row? I got a
bushel of 'em! No, but I
may be corny, but I'm
always in good taste.
Even at a roast.

(MAISIE STEPS BACK, BOWS)

(DIDI PLAYS AND SINGS -- "NEW
SONG" -- "A RAILROADER FOR ME")

(SONG ENDS. [PAUSE] J.J. ENTERS)

MAISIE:

So, what do you think,
Mister Silvers? Are you
going to sign me up?

SCENE 10 (CONT'D)

J.J.:

Maisie, I think your act
is still a little raw.
You're still growing,
kid. And it's a big
field. But I would like
a word with your little
drummer girl...

It hasn't yet happened

DIDI:

With me, Mister Silver?

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 11
(AUDITORIUM)

(PODIUM. J.J. NOW STANDS BEFORE
SCREEN FILLED WITH PIC OF THE
ENTIRE BAND)

J.J.:

Needless to say, I lost
no time in signing her to
a lifetime contract.
She'd been playing for
popcorn, but I paid her
peanuts. And once the
band was all together, it
wasn't long before we had
our first hit. I said,
hit! that's your cue,
Tecky, you absent minded
aubergine -- I said hit!
Hit! Hit!

(CUT TO: TECKY HEADING FOR THE
PODIUM, DRAGGING A LARGE MALLET.)

(CUT TO: THE AUDIENCE CHEERING
WILDLY.)

SFX (O.S.) THUMP!

(CUT TO: THE PODIUM HAS BEEN
KNOCKED OVER. TECKY PROUDLY WIELDS
THE MALLET OVER SPRAWLED J.J.)

J.J.:

That is,... our first
successful song -- "My
Bonnie Lies Over the
Ocean..."

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 12

(PUPPET SONG: "MY BONNIE LIES OVER
THE OCEAN")

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 13
(AUDITORIUM)

(EMCEE STRAIGHTENS PODIUM, STANDS WHERE J.J. WAS. ON SCREEN BEHIND HIM, JUKE BOX BAND LOGO. O.S. AUDIENCE CHEERS. EMCEE ACTS AS IF IT'S FOR HIM.)

EMCEE:

The greatest! The
swingin'-est! My ginchy-
est! Yeah! Now, my Man
J.J. is takin' five to
rap with his assistant,
you dig? But since you
all dug that tune so very
very much, what say do it
again and all sing along?

*you dig the
tune dig with a
share*

(O.S. AUDIENCE CHEERS.)

EMCEE (CONT'D):

All-reet. On the off-
beat. Oddley-ah da-doodu
...

(WHILE HE SCATS AND GYRATES WE HEAR
A BAR OR TWO OF THE ORIGINAL
ARRANGEMENT. HE STOPS.)

7

EMCEE:

Cut! Okay. Maybe that
chart's a little too
jivey for you cats.
Let's take it down and
cool it out. And one,
and two ...

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 14

(BAND PERFORMS "SINGALONG VERSION"
OF "MY BONNIE")

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 15
(AUDITORIUM)

(J.J. IS BACK. BANDAGE WRAPPED
AROUND HIS HEAD, BUT BACK UP TO
SPEED.)

J.J.:

How well I remember our
first big booking. It
was up on Lake Erie. Or
maybe Erie, Pennsylvania.
Anyway, someplace eerie.
We chose the perfect
number to open the show
that night ... (VERY
DELIBERATE AND SLOW) And
now, Tecky, if you would
be so kind as to turn on
the projector? Thank
you.

real names

(CUT TO: TECKY, WITH A FLOURISH, TOUCHES
HIS EQUIPMENT.)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 16

(PUPPET SONG: "ERIE CANAL.")

(DISSOLVE TO)

SCENE 17
(AUDITORIUM)

(J.J. IS AT PODIUM, SWAYING AND
HUMMING TO HIMSELF.)

J.J.:

...on the ee-why-ee ca-
NAL! Ooops. Sorry. But
I love that melody ...
Where was I?

(INTERCUT: TECKY HOLDS UP SIGN
READING "TOUR")

J.J. (CONT'D):

Oh, right. Yes, the Juke
Box Band and I hit the
road. Went out on tour.
Have Band Will Travel.
We went by train, mostly.
It's cheaper. Tecky, if
you please?

Tecky could
hit the road
Show them how we
hit the road

SCENE 17
(TRAIN EXTERIOR)

(BAND MEMBERS AND J.J. ON THE
MOVING TRAIN SET.)

J.J. (V.O.):

From pillar to post we
went, from hither to yon.
Played to packed houses
in yon. You know, this
great country of ours is
crisscrossed not only by
one steel rail, but by
two -- they run parallel
to each other, so trains
can run on 'em. Darn
clever idea. And what
fun we had together!

(TRAIN SEQUENCE ENDS WITH TRAIN
STOPPED. BAND PUSHES J.J. OFF.
TRAIN STARTS, LEAVING HIM
BEHIND ...)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

why? *needs explanation*
argument

SCENE 18
(AUDITORIUM)

(J.J. IN FRONT OF SCREEN WITH
TRAVEL GRAPHIC ON IT -- MAP?
SUITCASES AND STICKERS?)

J.J.:

We spent so much of our
time on trains, the Band
started doing railroad
songs. Here are four
that have always been
among your favorites,
and we hope that soon,
we'll get to like them
too. Tecky? S'il vous
plait?

*why put down these
songs?*

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 19

(PUPPET SONG: "JOHN HENRY.")

(O.S. APPLAUSE)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 20

(PUPPET SONG: "WABASH
CANNONBALL.")

(OS APPLAUSE)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 21

(PUPPET SONG: "CASEY JONES.")

(OS CHEERS)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 22

(PUPPET SONG: "WORKIN' ON THE
RAILROAD")

(OS CHEERS)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 23
(AUDITORIUM)

(AT PODIUM. VERY EXCITED J.J. IN
FRONT OF SCREEN WITH TRAIN GRAPHIC
ON IT. [SHINING TIME STATION?])]??

J.J.:

Aren't they the greatest?

(OS CHEERING SWELLS)

J.J.:

Aren't I the greatest?

(OS CHEERING FADES FAST)

J.J.:

Would you like to sing
along?

(OS CHEERING SWELLS AGAIN)

J.J.:

(TO HIMSELF)

Tough crowd... that was
close.]?

(TO AUDIENCE)

All together now. One,
and two and one...

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 25
(AUDITORIUM)

J.J.:

Where ever I go, people
ask me -- "J.J., how do
you do it? What's the
secret of your phenomenal
success with the Band?"
And I say to them -- it's
just something you can't
put a name to. But let's
just call it --
chemistry. → *Teamwork*

(INTERCUT: AUDIENCE KEELED OR
KEELING OVER AGAIN.)

SFX -- SNORES

(TECKY ASLEEP AGAINST HIS EQUIPMENT.
HE WAKES UP WHEN HE HEARS HIS
NAME.)

J.J.:

Let me show you what I
mean. Tecky, my trusted
and valued assistant, has
taken some home videos of
yours truly and the band
backstage. Let's listen
in, shall, we?

SCENE 26
(DRESSING ROOM SET)

(EVERYONE -- TITO, GRACE, DIDI, TEX
& REX PACKED IN. AT MIRRORS,
TUNING UP -- THEY ARE GETTING
COSTUMED FOR "CAMPTOWN RACES".
SCENE HAS A HANDHELD HOME VIDEO
LOOK)

TITO:

This place is a dump!

GRACE:

It's a worse dump than
the last dump.

DIDI:
(to camera)

Tecky -- can't you tell
J.J. to book us into
some better places?

TEX:
(to camera)

Can't you tell J.J. to
pay us our salaries?

REX:
(to camera)

And TEcky, while you're
at it, ask Tex to stop
using my eyeliner.

TEX:
(to camera)

Tell Rex he's a selfish
dog.

(J.J. BURSTS IN FULL OF BEANS.)

J.J.:

People. People! It's
magic time! I wanna see
energy out there on stage
tonight ...

who is the target audience

?

? why?

SCENE 26 (CONT'D)

DIDI:

J.J., this place is an
armpit! Tell 'im Tito.

TITO:

J.J., the boys and girls
aren't happy, J.J. Me
neither. We wanna get
paid, man.

GRACE:

Right on, Tito, baby.
J.J., where's our bread?

J.J.:

I'm afraid I don't
understand the reference
to baked goods, my
dear ...

REX:

J.J.? I quit.

TEX

No, I quit. That's no
fair, Rex, we agreed I'd
quit first.

REX:

Did not.

TEX:

Did too.

GRACE:

This is my last show J.J.

DIDI:

I am outta here!

(O.S. WE HEAR A GIGANTIC CROWD
BEGIN TO STAMP AND CLAP IN RHYTHM...
IMPATIENTLY)

SCENE 26 (CONT'D)

J.J.:

Friends, friends -- its
show time! Curtain up,
light the lights! The
roar of the greasepaint
-- your public awaits.
We'll discuss all this
later. There's your cue!
Magic time! Now go out
there and knock 'em dead.
Go! Go!

(THE BAND EXITS, INTO THE WAITING
ELEVATOR. J.J. TURNS TO THE
CAMERA.)

J.J.:

That thing isn't on is
it?

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 27
(ELEVATOR SET:)

(BAND IS CRAMMED IN. AS THEY RISE,
OS CROWD SOUNDS GET LOUDER)

GRACE:


Sounds like a good crowd.

TITO:

Sounds like a big crowd.

DIDI:

It's not their fault that
J.J.'s such a jerk.



TEX:

Let's give 'em a good
show.

REX:

Let's give 'em Camptown
Races.

ALL:

(AD LIB)

All-right! Okay. Right
on. Yeah!

(ELEVATOR STOPS, BAND RUSHES OUT --
CROWD OS GOES NUTS)

SCENE 27

(PUPPET SONG: "CAMPTOWN RACES.")

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 28
(AUDITORIUM)

(AT THE PODIUM. J.J. ACCEPTS O.S.
APPLAUSE FROM THE AUDIENCE.)

J.J.:

Oh, those artistic
temperaments, huh? But did
the Band break up and go
home? Of course not!
Why? I'd never paid
them! They had no money
for train fare! That's a
little music-management
tip for all you
executives out there.
Hahaha. And the next
day, they were all on the
set for our very first
music video taping.
Wanna see it?

(O.S. AUDIENCE CHEERS.)

J.J.:

Okay -- here it is!
(PAUSE) Tecky? Any time
...

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 29

(PUPPET SONG: "COMIN' ROUND THE
MOUNTAIN)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 30
(AUDITORIUM)

(J.J. AT PODIUM. ON SCREEN BAND
LOGO. J.J. IS REJOICING IN THE
ENTHUSIASTIC APPLAUSE OF THE
AUDIENCE)

J.J.:

Do you love it? Does it
make you want to tap your
toes and sing along? Am
I a genius?

a Schenker line

(OS APPLAUSE FADES FAST)

Okay, everybody! Sing
along.

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 31

(SINGALONG VERSION OF "COMIN' ROUND
THE MOUNTAIN")

SCENE 32
(AUDITORIUM)

(J.J. IS DRAPED OVER THE PODIUM,
SOBBING. HE RISES, CROAKS, SOBS,
COLLAPSES AGAIN. EMCEE RUSHES OUT
TO HIM)

EMCEE:

J.J. My Man! C'mon.
What's buggin' you,
baby? Talk to us.

J.J.:
(choked up)

They hate me.

EMCEE:

Tecky - baby. Play
something for the people.
Just give us a second
here, folks...

(CUT TO:)

(GALLERY MEMBERS LOOKING PUZZLED...
TECKY STARTING UP HIS EQUIPMENT)

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 33

(PUPPET SONG: "GET ON BOARD")

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 34
(AUDITORIUM)

(EMCEE AND J.J. AS BEFORE)

EMCEE:

I love ya, baby. Who
hates you?

J.J.:

The Band! Tito, Grace,
Didi. the Boys... They
all do.

EMCEE:

The Band hates you?

J.J.:

Yes! That's why they're
not here today. Not only
do they hate me, they
don't even like me.

EMCEE:

J.J.? I've got a
surprise for you, J.J.
Okay, Tecky, let 'em in.

(J.J. LOOKS AROUND WILDLY. WHAT?
EMCEE DANCES WITH GLEE. PAST THE
CHEERING AUDIENCE, LED BY TECKY,
COMES THE WHOLE BAND. [CRAIG -- USE
HANDS AND FEET]. THEY GATHER
AROUND J.J.)

J.J.:

People. People! There
is audience here, people.
And you know what that
means? Magic time! Hit
it, Tito!

(DISSOLVE TO:)

*Be a This is your
life
introduction of the
band members*

SCENE 35

(PUPPET SONG: "NO BUSINESS LIKE
SHOW BUSINESS")

(DISSOLVE TO:)

} Why not a more
heartwarming piece

SCENE 36
(AUDITORIUM)

(AUDIENCE CHEERING WILDLY)

VOICES:

Encore! More! Bis!
Again!

(CUT TO: PODIUM, BAND WAVING. BESIDE
TECKY, EMCEE AND J.J.)

EMCEE:

The GROOVE-iest! J.J.
Silver and the Juke Box
Band! Men? Ladies?
Hats? Cats? I gotta
feeling the folks here
would dig a chance to
hear that swinigh' ditty
again. May we? ✓

J.J.:

Are you kidding, Mister
W.? My people are
professionals. How much? }

GRACE:

J.J.? You are too much! } Grace

DIDI:

For free, J.J. For you!

TITO:

One. Two. One two three
...

(BAND DOES REPRISE OF SONG...
EMCEE, TECKY AND AUDIENCE JOIN IN
AS BALLOONS AND CONFETTI FALL --
J.J. IS RAISED ON SHOULDERS AT
FINALE...)

(FREEZE AND)

FADE TO BLACK.